

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10—ASSEMBLYMEN WATTS,
C.H. MILLER, FRIERSON, BRITTNEY MILLER, MONROE-
MORENO; SUMMERS-ARMSTRONG AND THOMAS

MARCH 16, 2021

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS D. HARRIS AND NEAL

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Proposes to amend the Ordinance of the Nevada
Constitution and the Nevada Constitution to remove
language authorizing the use of slavery and
involuntary servitude as a criminal punishment.
(BDR C-496)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets **~~omitted material~~** is material to be omitted.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Proposing to amend the
Ordinance of the Nevada Constitution and the Nevada
Constitution to remove language authorizing the use of
slavery and involuntary servitude as a criminal
punishment.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Under the Ordinance of the Nevada Constitution and the Nevada Constitution,
2 slavery and involuntary servitude are prohibited except as punishment for a crime.
3 (Ordinance of the Nevada Constitution; Nev. Const. Art. 1, § 17) This resolution
4 proposes to amend the Ordinance of the Nevada Constitution and the Nevada
5 Constitution to remove language authorizing the use of slavery and involuntary
6 servitude as a criminal punishment. If this resolution is passed by the 2021
7 Legislature, it must also be passed by the next Legislature and then approved and
8 ratified by voters in an election before the proposed amendments become effective.

1 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF
2 NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the Ordinance of the Nevada Constitution
3 be amended to read as follows:



1 In obedience to the requirements of an act of the Congress
2 of the United States, approved March twenty-first, A.D.
3 eighteen hundred and sixty-four, to enable the people of
4 Nevada to form a constitution and state government, this
5 convention, elected and convened in obedience to said
6 enabling act, do ordain as follows, and this ordinance shall be
7 irrevocable, without the consent of the United States and the
8 people of the State of Nevada:

9 First. That there shall be in this state neither slavery nor
10 involuntary servitude . ~~I, otherwise than in the punishment for~~
11 ~~crimes, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.]~~

12 Second. That perfect toleration of religious sentiment shall
13 be secured, and no inhabitant of said state shall ever be
14 molested, in person or property, on account of his or her
15 mode of religious worship.

16 Third. That the people inhabiting said territory do agree
17 and declare, that they forever disclaim all right and title to the
18 unappropriated public lands lying within said territory, and
19 that the same shall be and remain at the sole and entire
20 disposition of the United States; and that lands belonging to
21 citizens of the United States, residing without the said state,
22 shall never be taxed higher than the land belonging to the
23 residents thereof; and that no taxes shall be imposed by said
24 state on lands or property therein belonging to, or which may
25 hereafter be purchased by, the United States, unless otherwise
26 provided by the congress of the United States.

27 And be it further

28 RESOLVED, That Section 17 of Article 1 of the Nevada
29 Constitution be amended to read as follows:

30 Sec. 17. Neither Slavery nor involuntary servitude ~~unless~~
31 ~~for the punishment of crimes]~~ shall ever be tolerated in this
32 State.

33 And be it further

34 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon
35 passage.

